

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

VICTORIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 20 MAY 1998

CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Notes.....	2
Selected features	3

TABLES

List of tables.....	4
Demography.....	5
Labour	6
Wages	9
Prices.....	10
Meat production	11
Building	12
Finance	15
Retail.....	16
Trade	17
Tourism	18

- For more information about these and related statistics, contact Information Services on 03 9615 7755 or refer to the back cover of this publication.

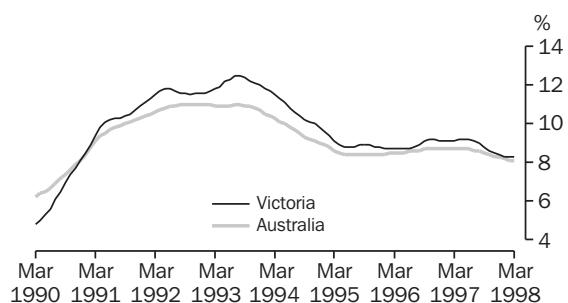
NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES	ISSUE	RELEASE DATE
	May 1998	19 June 1998
	June 1998	20 July 1998
	July 1998	20 August 1998
ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION	<p>The aim of this publication is to provide a range of the latest statistics available at the end of each month of issue. Consequently, the dates and periods shown are not always the same for each table, but are in each case the latest figures available at that time.</p>	
SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT	<p>Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variations from economic time series so that the effects of other influences are obvious. Seasonal variations are the systematic (though not necessarily regular) intra-year movements of economic time series. These are often the result of non-economic phenomena, such as climatic changes and regular religious festivals e.g. Christmas and Easter.</p>	
TREND ESTIMATE	<p>Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of trend by removing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series. Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months' data become available.</p>	
SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES	<p>n.a. not available n.e.c. not elsewhere classified n.p. not available for publication but included in totals where applicable n.y.a. not yet available p preliminary — figure or series subject to revision r figure or series revised since previous issue * estimate has a relative standard error greater than 25% and is therefore subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses . . not applicable — nil or rounded to zero</p>	

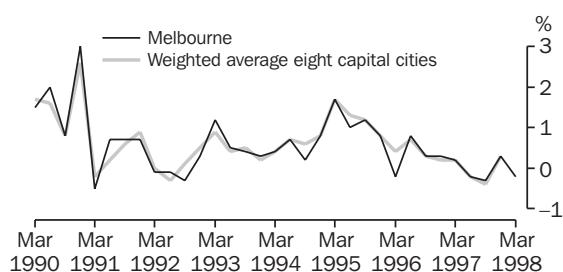
Ian Crettenden
Acting Regional Director

SELECTED FEATURES

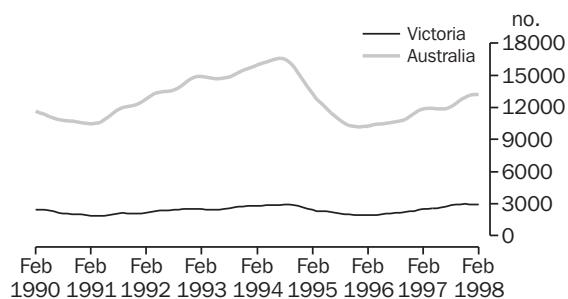
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend—Monthly



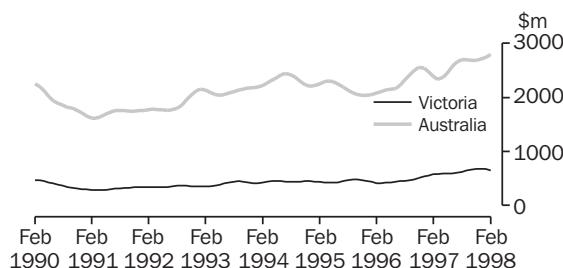
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX,
Change from previous quarter



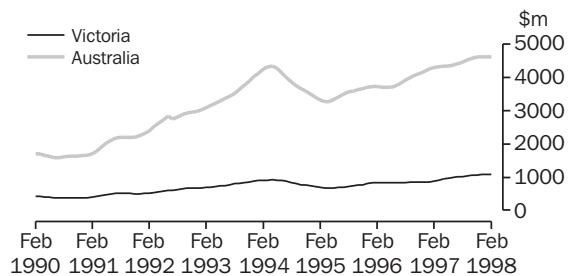
NEW DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend—Monthly



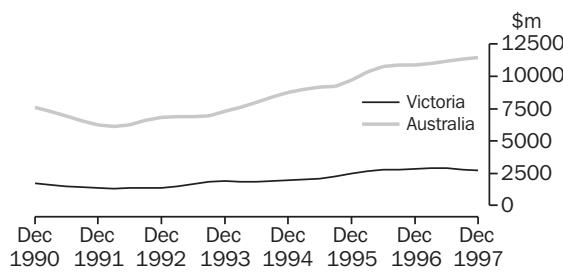
VALUE OF ALL BUILDINGS APPROVED, Trend—
Monthly



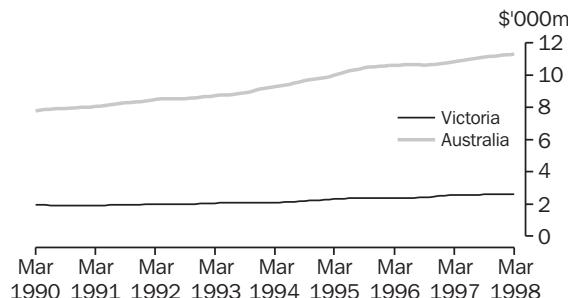
TOTAL VALUE OF SECURED HOUSING FINANCE
COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS, Trend—Monthly



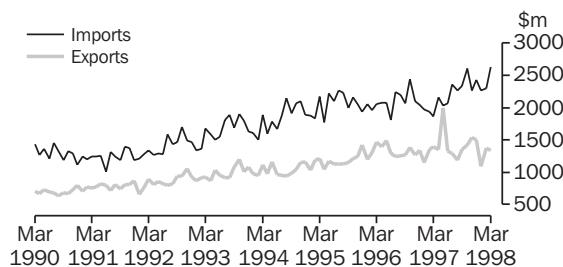
PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Trend—
Quarterly



RETAIL TURNOVER, Trend—Monthly



MERCHANDISE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, Original—
Monthly



LIST OF TABLES

	Page
DEMOGRAPHY	
1 Estimated resident population	5
2 Births, deaths, marriages and divorces	5
LABOUR	
3 Labour force status of the civilian population aged 15 years and over	6
4 Employed persons, by industry	7
5 Job vacancies	8
6 Industrial disputes causing stoppage of work	8
WAGES	
7 Average weekly earnings of employees	9
PRICES	
8 Consumer Price Index — Melbourne	10
9 Price Index of Materials Used in Building — Melbourne	10
MEAT PRODUCTION	
10 Livestock slaughterings	11
11 Meat production	11
BUILDING	
12 Building approvals — Melbourne and Victoria	12
13 New houses and other residential buildings, number of dwelling units	13
14 Value of building	14
FINANCE	
15 Private new capital expenditure, by selected industries and type of asset	15
16 Commercial finance commitments	15
17 Secured housing finance commitments	16
RETAIL	
18 Retail turnover, by industry (excluding motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc.)	16
TRADE	
19 Exports and imports, by sections of the Australian Export and Import Classifications	17
20 Overseas trade, major trading partners	17
21 Value of overseas trade — Victoria and Australia	18
TOURISM	
22 Tourist accommodation — Melbourne and Victoria	18

1

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

Period	At end of period			Increase during period		Mean estimated resident population for year ended		Melbourne Statistical Division at 30 June(a)
	Males '000	Females '000	Persons '000	Natural '000	Total '000	30 Jun '000	31 Dec '000	
1994-95	2 233.4	2 284.0	4 517.4	31.3	28.6	4 502.1	4 518.6	3 243.7
1995-96	2 252.6	2 307.5	4 560.2	28.5	42.8	4 539.4	4 560.9	3 283.3
1996-97 p	2 274.3	2 330.9	4 605.1	28.3	45.0	4 583.0	—	3 321.7
1996								
June qtr	2 252.6	2 307.5	4 560.2	6.7	8.8	..	..	..
September qtr p	2 257.8	2 313.2	4 571.0	6.3	10.9	..	..	..
December qtr p	2 262.5	2 318.8	4 581.3	7.1	10.2	..	..	..
1997								
March qtr p	2 269.9	2 326.2	4 596.1	7.6	14.8	..	..	..
June qtr p	2 274.3	2 330.9	4 605.1	7.3	9.1	..	..	..
September qtr p	2 280.4	2 337.0	4 617.4	6.4	12.3	—	—	—

(a) Based on the 1996 Statistical Local Area boundaries. Years 1992 to 1995 are yet to be revised based on the 1996 Census results and are therefore excluded from this table.

Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0) (quarterly).

2

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES

Period	Registrations				Annual rate per 1,000 of mean estimated resident population				
	Births no.	Deaths including infant deaths no.	Marriages no.	Divorces no.	Births rate	Deaths rate	Marriages rate	Divorces rate	Infant deaths per 1,000 live births rate
1994-95	63 960	32 291	26 831	11 602	14.26	7.20	5.98	2.59	5.19
1995-96	60 954	32 494	26 117	12 002	13.48	7.19	5.78	2.65	5.28
1996-97 p	61 628	32 595	25 664	13 045	13.45	7.11	5.60	2.85	4.71
1996									
June qtr	15 287	7 955	6 140	2 891	..	..	..	..	..
September qtr	14 957	8 589	3 840	3 530	..	..	..	..	..
December qtr	16 352	8 508	7 723	3 398	..	..	..	..	..
Year — 1996	61 529	32 714	26 074	12 491	13.33	7.14	5.69	2.73	5.09
1997									
March qtr p	15 084	7 423	8 102	2 809	..	..	..	..	..
June qtr p	15 730	8 372	5 999	3 308	..	..	..	..	..
September qtr p	15 761	9 211	3 814	3 164	..	..	..	..	..

Source: Demography, Victoria (Cat. no. 3311.2) (annual). Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0) (quarterly).

3

LABOUR FORCE STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER

Month	Employed		Unemployed looking for work		Labour force '000	Not in labour force '000	Civilian population 15 years and over '000	Unemployment rate '000	Participation rate %
	Full-time Total '000	Total '000	Full-time '000	Part-time '000					
MALES									
1997									
January	1 050.9	1 184.8	108.4	16.6	125.0	1 309.8	460.3	1 770.2	9.5
February	1 049.8	1 180.9	113.2	19.2	132.4	1 313.3	458.2	1 771.5	10.1
March	1 037.5	1 184.1	104.8	20.0	124.8	1 308.9	463.9	1 772.9	9.5
April	1 044.3	1 186.3	97.1	19.3	116.5	1 302.8	472.0	1 774.8	8.9
May	1 040.9	1 183.3	101.9	13.8	115.7	1 299.0	477.7	1 776.7	8.9
June	1 033.1	1 182.8	104.0	15.8	119.8	1 302.6	476.0	1 778.6	9.2
July	1 039.7	1 185.2	98.3	14.0	112.3	1 297.5	483.0	1 780.6	8.7
August	1 022.4	1 168.7	100.2	15.2	115.4	1 284.0	498.5	1 782.5	9.0
September	1 037.0	1 189.1	100.8	22.6	123.5	1 312.6	471.9	1 784.5	9.4
October	1 043.0	1 195.9	85.9	15.2	101.1	1 297.0	489.5	1 786.5	7.8
November	1 048.8	1 194.0	89.5	15.4	104.8	1 298.8	489.6	1 788.4	8.1
December	1 064.4	1 220.2	86.4	23.1	109.5	1 329.7	460.7	1 790.4	8.2
1998									
January	1 054.8	1 185.7	102.0	20.4	122.4	1 308.1	484.2	1 792.2	9.4
February	1 065.0	1 202.5	96.1	20.6	116.7	1 319.2	474.8	1 794.0	8.8
March	1 055.8	1 206.2	97.6	19.3	116.9	1 323.1	472.7	1 795.8	8.8
FEMALES									
1997									
January	511.9	888.2	64.1	24.1	88.2	976.4	871.9	1 848.3	9.0
February	511.1	903.0	72.0	29.6	101.7	1 004.7	845.0	1 849.7	10.1
March	501.2	904.3	63.3	32.5	95.8	1 000.1	851.0	1 851.1	9.6
April	503.8	914.2	63.0	30.4	93.4	1 007.7	845.4	1 853.1	9.3
May	503.7	907.5	61.9	30.8	92.7	1 000.2	854.9	1 855.1	9.3
June	512.1	921.1	60.6	27.0	87.6	1 008.8	848.3	1 857.1	8.7
July	523.1	917.8	56.3	25.7	82.0	999.8	859.3	1 859.0	8.2
August	498.5	891.5	57.8	29.0	86.7	978.2	882.7	1 861.0	8.9
September	520.4	932.9	59.1	29.0	88.1	1 021.0	841.9	1 862.9	8.6
October	511.9	916.1	55.4	27.3	82.8	998.8	866.0	1 864.8	8.3
November	505.6	922.1	53.2	26.5	79.7	1 001.8	865.0	1 866.8	8.0
December	530.2	934.8	55.9	26.3	82.2	1 016.9	851.8	1 868.7	8.1
1998									
January	513.3	893.6	60.9	28.5	89.4	983.0	887.4	1 870.5	9.1
February	526.6	387.3	62.9	27.9	90.8	1 004.6	867.5	1 872.2	9.0
March	520.0	925.3	61.0	32.6	93.5	1 018.9	855.0	1 873.9	9.2
PERSONS									
1997									
January	1 562.8	2 073.0	172.5	40.7	213.2	2 286.2	1 332.2	3 618.4	9.3
February	1 560.9	2 084.0	185.2	48.9	234.1	2 318.0	1 303.2	3 621.2	10.1
March	1 538.7	2 088.4	168.1	52.5	220.6	2 309.0	1 315.0	3 624.0	9.6
April	1 548.1	2 100.6	160.2	49.7	209.9	2 310.5	1 317.4	3 627.9	9.1
May	1 544.6	2 090.8	163.8	44.7	208.4	2 299.2	1 332.6	3 631.8	9.1
June	1 545.2	2 103.9	164.6	42.9	207.5	2 311.4	1 324.4	3 635.7	9.0
July	1 562.8	2 103.0	154.6	39.7	194.3	2 297.3	1 342.3	3 639.6	8.5
August	1 520.9	2 060.2	157.9	44.2	202.1	2 262.3	1 381.2	3 643.5	8.9
September	1 557.5	2 122.1	159.9	51.7	211.6	2 333.6	1 313.8	3 647.4	9.1
October	1 554.8	2 111.9	141.1	42.5	183.9	2 295.8	1 355.5	3 651.3	8.0
November	1 554.4	2 116.1	142.7	41.8	184.5	2 300.6	1 354.6	3 655.2	8.0
December	1 594.6	2 155.0	142.3	49.3	191.7	2 346.7	1 312.5	3 659.2	8.2
1998									
January	1 568.1	2 079.3	162.8	48.9	211.8	2 291.1	1 371.6	3 662.7	9.2
February	1 591.6	2 116.3	159.0	48.5	207.5	2 323.8	1 342.4	3 666.2	8.9
March	1 575.8	2 131.6	158.5	51.9	210.4	2 342.0	1 327.7	3 669.7	9.0

Source: Labour Force, Victoria (Cat. no. 6202.2) (quarterly).

4

EMPLOYED PERSONS, BY INDUSTRY

	Nov 1996	Feb 1997	May 1997	Aug 1997	Nov 1997	Feb 1998
Industry division	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	71.1	79.0	70.2	58.7	55.9	68.0
Mining	4.6	*3.3	*3.0	*2.5	*3.2	*3.1
Manufacturing	262.6	255.3	253.0	249.8	250.3	247.5
Electricity, gas and water supply	11.2	10.4	12.4	13.4	9.9	11.6
Construction	118.0	106.7	104.9	110.9	115.9	121.6
Wholesale trade	86.9	84.9	92.4	—	88.0	92.1
Retail trade	159.7	158.2	157.5	150.6	158.4	159.7
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	30.7	32.0	35.2	37.0	37.6	31.9
Transport and storage	66.2	73.9	78.4	74.8	73.5	82.9
Communication services	32.0	25.8	25.2	24.5	22.4	22.1
Finance and insurance	36.8	36.2	43.3	42.8	46.3	42.3
Property and business services	115.4	117.8	121.3	130.8	130.7	130.1
Government administration and defence	42.1	39.0	33.4	29.2	38.4	37.4
Education	52.4	47.8	47.6	48.4	52.9	49.1
Health and community services	45.8	38.5	35.6	37.5	39.7	36.4
Cultural and recreational services	20.3	26.5	21.5	25.8	28.3	28.2
Personal and other services	36.8	45.6	48.4	47.0	42.5	38.3
Total	1 192.4	1 180.9	1 183.3	1 168.7	1 194.0	1 202.5
FEMALES						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	33.7	34.1	35.2	28.0	30.8	35.4
Mining	*0.5	*0.5	*0.0	*0.0	*0.3	*0.3
Manufacturing	99.8	97.5	95.7	93.7	107.4	95.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	*2.1	*2.9	*2.1	*1.8	*1.9	*2.6
Construction	16.3	14.6	14.1	15.0	15.8	16.5
Wholesale trade	39.6	38.5	41.4	38.1	41.5	39.5
Retail trade	166.9	156.3	151.3	150.0	157.8	160.5
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	46.4	45.6	49.9	49.0	47.9	46.3
Transport and storage	20.8	25.1	23.9	18.1	18.7	19.8
Communication services	18.2	17.4	14.0	16.8	15.9	14.2
Finance and insurance	40.5	44.6	49.8	47.8	42.2	40.5
Property and business services	101.3	91.4	94.6	107.6	101.5	105.3
Government administration and defence	40.7	44.3	41.7	39.3	41.9	34.1
Education	89.4	84.7	89.2	90.7	89.0	85.9
Health and community services	141.9	147.0	145.1	144.7	148.9	158.2
Cultural and recreational services	20.3	23.2	21.9	19.4	25.3	21.8
Personal and other services	35.0	35.4	39.6	31.4	35.0	37.9
Total	913.3	903.0	907.5	891.5	922.1	913.8
PERSONS						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	104.7	113.1	103.4	86.8	86.7	103.4
Mining	5.1	*3.8	*3.0	*2.5	*3.6	*3.4
Manufacturing	362.4	352.7	348.7	343.5	357.7	342.6
Electricity, gas and water supply	13.3	13.3	14.5	15.2	11.9	14.2
Construction	134.2	121.4	119.0	125.9	131.7	138.1
Wholesale trade	126.5	123.4	133.8	123.1	129.5	131.6
Retail trade	326.5	314.5	308.8	300.5	316.2	320.2
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	77.1	77.6	85.1	86.0	85.5	78.1
Transport and storage	86.9	99.0	102.3	92.9	92.2	102.8
Communication services	50.3	43.2	39.1	41.3	38.3	36.3
Finance and insurance	77.2	80.8	93.1	90.6	88.5	82.8
Property and business services	216.7	209.1	215.9	238.5	232.2	235.4
Government administration and defence	82.8	83.3	75.1	68.5	80.3	71.5
Education	141.8	132.5	136.8	139.0	142.0	135.0
Health and community services	187.6	185.5	180.7	182.2	188.6	194.6
Cultural and recreational services	40.6	49.7	43.4	45.2	53.6	50.0
Personal and other services	71.8	81.0	88.0	78.4	77.6	76.2
Total	2 105.7	2 084.0	2 090.8	2 060.2	2 116.1	2 116.3

Source: Labour Force, Victoria (Cat. no. 6202.2) (quarterly).

5

JOB VACANCIES

Month	Vacancies all persons	Industry		Sector		Job vacancy rate
		Manufacturing	Other	Public	Private	
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
1996						
November	12.8	2.0	10.8	1.9	10.9	0.75
1997						
February	12.8	*3.3	9.5	1.7	*11.1	0.75
May	11.5	*2.1	9.4	1.9	9.6	0.66
August	17.4	1.5	15.8	2.4	*14.9	0.97
November	*17.9	1.1	*16.8	2.3	*15.6	*0.97
1998						
February	24.0	*2.5	21.5	1.8	*22.1	1.20

Source: Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0) (quarterly). Quarterly Survey of Job Vacancies and Overtime (Unpublished data).

6

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES CAUSING STOPPAGE OF WORK

Month	Disputes		Employees involved				Working days lost		
	Beginning in period	Total	Beginning in period	Total	Manufacturing	Construction	Education, health, community services	Other industries	Total
	no.	no.	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
1996									
November	9	12	15.3	15.4	1.9	—	10.2	1.6	13.7
December	9	11	1.6	5.5	1.0	0.4	1.9	0.6	3.9
1997									
January	3	5	0.9	1.4	—	1.1	—	0.1	1.1
February	6	7	9.9	10.3	—	3.0	7.7	—	10.7
March	8	8	8.8	8.8	0.5	2.3	—	5.3	8.1
April	11	12	4.7	5.1	9.2	1.5	—	0.5	11.2
May	16	19	7.6	9.8	11.6	0.6	0.4	3.9	16.5
June	7	13	2.0	5.1	3.5	0.2	1.2	2.5	7.4
July	11	14	9.0	9.4	2.3	0.5	—	7.2	10.0
August	11	14	1.9	4.0	0.2	0.9	0.3	4.0	5.4
September	14	18	4.8	7.3	11.2	1.0	0.1	6.0	18.3
October	10	12	52.8	53.7	33.7	18.6	1.2	6.6	60.1
November	8	13	22.1	46.6	18.9	10.4	14.8	2.0	46.0
December	6	11	4.0	17.2	9.4	3.7	—	4.2	17.3
1998									
January	5	7	0.5	1.1	0.9	0.3	0.0	0.3	1.5

Source: Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0) (monthly).

7

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES

Month	Males			Females			Persons		
	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All males total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All females total earnings	Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	Full-time adult total earnings	All employees total earnings
1996									
August	697.6	756.0	662.3	588.0	601.7	432.3	659.7	702.6	557.8
November	720.3	791.8	686.5	607.1	625.8	443.8	681.2	734.5	577.5
1997									
February	726.6	782.5	687.7	611.9	625.9	462.4	687.7	729.4	590.0
May	736.9	789.1	676.2	618.5	636.7	453.9	693.9	733.8	572.7
August	754.2	812.7	695.2	625.8	643.4	460.4	708.1	751.9	587.2
November	748.5	807.6	714.9	632.9	653.1	463.6	708.1	753.6	600.6

Source: Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0) (quarterly).

8

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — MELBOURNE

Period	Melbourne								Weighted average of eight capital cities — All groups	
	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Transportation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care	Recreation and education		
1994-95	110.1	107.4	97.5	111.1	118.8	137.3	142.4	116.7	114.1	113.9
1995-96	114.1	108.0	101.4	113.0	122.6	154.2	148.7	120.3	118.4	118.7
1996-97	118.6	108.4	95.0	114.7	124.0	158.5	157.1	123.3	119.9	120.3
1996										
December qtr	118.4	108.4	96.7	114.9	124.1	158.0	155.3	122.0	119.9	120.3
1997										
March qtr	118.8	108.1	93.5	114.6	125.1	158.4	158.4	125.2	120.1	120.5
June qtr	119.6	108.4	90.1	115.0	123.8	159.4	162.7	124.8	119.9	120.2
September qtr	119.8	108.5	88.7	114.6	124.6	158.6	157.3	126.0	119.5	119.7
December qtr	119.7	109.2	86.9	115.4	124.4	161.2	162.2	126.2	119.8	120.0
1998										
March qtr	120.7	109.0	84.1	115.1	122.1	162.0	163.6	129.4	119.6	120.3

Note: Base of each group: year 1989-90=100.0

Source: Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0) (quarterly).

9

PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING — MELBOURNE

Group	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Sep qtr	Dec qtr	Mar qtr	1997		1998	
							1997	1998	Weighted average of six state capital cities — Mar qtr 1998	
House building										
All groups	115.9	115.4	115.3	116.1	116.6	117.6			118.7	
Other than house building										
Structural timber	123.0	116.1	110.1	114.4	115.3	115.8			123.0	
Clay bricks	112.3	112.1	113.1	116.1	116.1	119.6			115.5	
Ready mix concrete	124.2	118.6	111.5	111.2	111.4	111.5			106.9	
Precast concrete products	104.8	108.1	110.3	111.8	112.4	115.0			120.7	
Steel decking and cladding	106.5	109.9	109.2	110.4	110.5	108.3			114.5	
Structural steel	95.3	100.9	104.2	105.1	105.1	104.7			112.9	
Reinforcing steel bar, mesh, etc.	101.8	102.7	100.7	100.6	100.8	100.8			112.7	
Aluminium windows	98.8	100.8	100.6	100.4	100.7	99.2			108.8	
Fabricated steel products	110.7	113.1	116.7	119.3	119.5	120.6			116.5	
Builders' hardware	113.7	114.5	116.5	118.6	119.5	119.8			120.8	
Sand and aggregate	118.5	114.6	115.9	116.4	116.4	116.0			121.2	
Carpet	98.5	101.6	101.6	102.9	102.9	102.9			103.5	
Paint and other coatings	131.2	141.2	145.8	143.5	143.5	143.5			135.4	
Non-ferrous pipes and fittings	100.8	112.2	111.5	113.8	118.7	110.2			135.4	
All groups excluding electrical materials and mechanical services	108.5	109.7	110.0	110.6	110.9	110.9			141.1	
All electrical materials	113.5	119.4	112.0	110.4	109.8	110.3			115.3	
All mechanical services	108.9	114.1	114.9	114.8	114.8	114.6			115.2	
All plumbing materials	112.6	118.9	120.1	121.6	124.3	122.8			129.5	
All groups	108.9	111.1	110.9	111.2	111.3	111.4			114.1	

Note: Base of each index: year 1989-90=100.0.

Source: Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other Than House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6407.0) (quarterly). Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6408.0) (quarterly).

10

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS

	Cattle '000	Calves '000	Sheep '000	Lambs '000	Pigs '000	Chickens '000
Period						
1994-95	1 467.3	635.6	3 229.6	6 303.2	1 196.9	77 193.1
1995-96	1 523.6	589.8	2 488.0	5 897.7	1 142.1	85 410.9
1996-97 p	1 675.9	697.3	2 806.6	5 978.9	1 197.3	86 732.6
1996						
December	138.3	8.7	276.1	528.8	103.1	7 780.8
1997 p						
January	159.1	7.9	325.8	534.0	93.0	7 661.6
February	148.6	6.5	306.1	460.5	96.9	6 863.8
March	131.0	15.9	235.6	466.5	90.3	6 520.7
April	165.4	42.4	262.4	559.6	111.2	7 244.5
May	155.0	55.8	226.7	519.1	113.5	6 867.5
June	139.3	75.1	175.8	475.1	105.4	6 692.3
July	148.3	105.2	192.3	541.0	118.8	8 263.5
August	132.2	185.5	195.8	442.2	104.2	7 152.4
September	129.4	178.5	234.5	537.6	108.1	7 546.2
October	147.3	80.0	322.7	582.7	107.9	8 442.6
November	140.6	28.3	310.1	565.1	98.9	7 187.8
December	163.9	11.8	340.5	583.1	115.7	8 240.7
1998 p						
January	165.3	11.1	339.3	539.2	104.7	8 183.6
February	165.0	8.8	422.0	472.8	104.2	7 695.9

Source: Livestock Products, Australia (Cat. no. 7215.0) (monthly).

11

MEAT PRODUCTION

Period	Meat (carcass weight)					Dressed weight of chickens tonnes
	Beef tonnes	Veal tonnes	Mutton tonnes	Lamb tonnes	Pigmeat tonnes	
1994-95	335 059	14 428	64 440	111 202	84 728	109 515
1995-96	348 649	12 009	50 910	110 172	83 052	127 736
1996-97 p	373 818	14 293	55 545	111 403	85 872	129 930
1996						
December	31 546	222	5 625	9 875	7 374	11 780
1997 p						
January	35 913	214	6 500	10 034	6 616	11 173
February	33 272	170	5 930	8 730	6 845	11 030
March	28 959	359	4 484	8 813	6 322	9 188
April	36 393	891	5 005	10 666	7 982	10 256
May	33 598	1 102	4 315	9 849	8 245	10 367
June	30 312	1 442	3 474	9 036	7 694	9 999
July	31 773	2 060	3 733	10 112	8 594	13 039
August	28 256	3 658	3 773	8 498	7 596	10 842
September	28 241	3 565	4 663	10 001	7 943	11 910
October	31 971	1 618	6 521	10 759	8 003	13 479
November	30 971	638	6 189	10 558	7 211	11 500
December	35 616	286	6 861	11 001	8 100	13 215
1998 p						
January	35 729	281	6 504	10 135	7 577	13 372
February	37 299	213	8 235	8 600	7 586	12 372

Source: Livestock Products, Australia (Cat. no. 7215.0) (monthly).

12

BUILDING APPROVALS — MELBOURNE AND VICTORIA

Period	New dwelling units(a)												Non-residential building(b)		
	Private sector			Public sector			Total(c)			Conversions etc.(d)	Alterations and additions to residential buildings	Non-residential building(b)			
	no.	\$m	no.	\$m	no.	\$m	no.	\$m	no.			Private sector	Total	Total all building	
MELBOURNE STATISTICAL DIVISION															
1995–95	20 916	2 113.1	888	69.8	21 804	2 182.9	1 330	571.9	1 072.3	1 655.8	4 410.6				
1995–96	15 676	1 624.3	1 068	86.5	16 744	1 710.8	617	467.2	1 352.5	1 934.5	4 112.5				
1996–97	19 648	2 183.1	447	35.8	20 095	2 218.9	1 189	592.3	1 527.1	2 303.0	5 114.1				
1996															
December	1 270	139.4	17	1.8	1 287	141.3	208	39.0	142.8	162.1	342.4				
1997															
January	1 561	162.2	37	6.0	1 598	168.2	24	39.1	168.7	202.1	409.5				
February	1 736	188.4	9	0.6	1 745	189.0	223	65.0	140.2	272.0	525.9				
March	1 848	195.1	12	1.2	1 860	196.3	36	50.7	150.7	184.1	431.1				
April	1 823	199.4	56	5.8	1 879	205.2	76	51.8	129.6	156.8	413.9				
May	1 963	241.9	23	1.2	1 986	243.2	70	49.0	106.4	136.6	428.8				
June	1 744	214.5	4	0.2	1 748	214.6	300	74.2	103.0	351.4	640.2				
July	1 998	216.9	38	1.9	2 036	218.9	25	51.1	132.1	176.2	446.2				
August	2 468	253.7	78	7.4	2 546	261.1	55	54.2	122.8	142.0	457.3				
September	2 152	239.1	57	3.8	2 209	242.9	222	68.5	173.5	192.1	503.6				
October	1 802	203.3	77	7.0	1 879	210.3	64	69.0	180.0	238.3	517.6				
November	2 450	291.7	71	4.9	2 521	296.6	52	49.1	195.8	213.6	559.3				
December	2 072	232.1	71	6.1	2 143	238.2	60	43.6	440.7	450.6	732.3				
1998															
January	1 855	230.7	23	1.5	1 878	232.2	74	44.2	174.2	203.1	479.5				
February	2 032	219.7	25	2.0	2 057	221.6	65	56.1	137.7	165.8	443.4				
TOTAL VICTORIA															
1994–95	28 509	2 772.2	1 409	101.8	29 918	2 874.0	1 347	685.1	1 274.7	1 975.2	5 534.3				
1995–96	21 643	2 171.1	1 401	108.7	23 044	2 279.7	663	590.1	1 721.6	2 452.4	5 322.3				
1996–97	26 041	2 793.3	596	46.7	26 610	2 839.9	1 240	728.5	1 879.7	2 839.8	6 408.2				
1996															
December	1 763	186.9	26	2.8	1 789	189.7	216	49.4	177.7	221.6	460.8				
1997															
January	2 039	209.6	49	6.9	2 088	216.4	25	50.1	188.9	226.6	493.1				
February	2 274	239.7	17	1.1	2 291	240.8	225	76.8	173.1	359.4	677.0				
March	2 407	249.8	12	1.2	2 419	251.0	37	63.1	180.8	225.1	539.2				
April	2 380	254.5	77	7.3	2 457	261.8	80	63.5	202.0	237.0	562.3				
May	2 565	298.9	37	2.2	2 602	301.1	74	62.5	135.6	178.3	541.9				
June	2 255	264.5	11	0.6	2 266	265.0	302	84.6	120.3	382.1	731.8				
July	2 563	275.5	42	2.3	2 605	277.8	27	62.9	161.8	227.9	568.6				
August	3 084	316.0	79	7.7	3 163	323.7	57	65.7	159.5	184.5	573.9				
September	2 824	307.6	113	7.2	2 937	314.8	225	83.6	209.9	242.2	640.6				
October	2 505	273.8	112	9.2	2 617	283.0	64	84.4	204.8	279.2	646.7				
November	3 083	354.6	110	7.5	3 193	362.1	54	60.1	213.5	247.3	669.5				
December	2 675	293.5	90	7.9	2 765	301.4	65	55.6	456.7	470.2	827.2				
1998															
January	2 305	278.0	57	3.7	2 362	281.7	77	56.7	201.7	234.1	572.6				
February	2 620	278.5	71	6.0	2 691	284.5	66	67.3	158.3	222.6	574.5				

(a) Valued at \$10,000 and over.

(b) Valued at \$50,000 and over.

(c) Excludes dwelling units created as a result of conversions or construction of non-residential buildings.

(d) Dwelling units created as a result of conversions or construction of non-residential buildings.

Source: Building Approvals, Victoria (Cat. no. 8731.2) (monthly).

13

NEW HOUSES AND OTHER RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS

Period	New houses				New other residential buildings			
	Approved	Commenced	Under Construction	Completed	Approved	Commenced	Under Construction	Completed
1994–95	25 885	25 846	10 668	27 380	4 033	3 612	2 765	2 892
1995–96	18 889	19 399	8 066	21 883	4 155	4 276	3 906	3 086
1996–97	19 805	18 652	8 937	17 613	6 805	6 047	4 151	5 727
1996								
September qtr	4 631	4 453	8 623	3 848	1 876	1 722	4 111	1 480
December qtr	4 456	4 139	7 624	5 081	1 524	1 238	4 046	1 294
1997								
March qtr	4 924	4 597	8 176	3 997	1 874	1 560	4 046	1 553
June qtr	5 794	5 463	8 937	4 687	1 531	1 527	4 151	1 400
September qtr	6 732	r 5 717	r 9 537	r 5 102	1 973	r 1 822	r 3 874	2 036
December qtr	6 821	7 051	10 803	5 737	1 754	1 864	4 052	1 682

Note: Base of each group: year 1989–90=100.0.

Source: *Building Activity, Victoria* (Cat. no. 8752.2) (quarterly).

14

VALUE OF BUILDING

Period	Residential buildings		Non-residential buildings						
	New	Alterations and additions	Shops	Factories	Offices	Education	Health	Other	Total
COMMENCED									
1994–95	2 907.7	678.6	323.4	211.4	384.2	293.3	140.8	583.8	5 523.2
1995–96	2 486.2	679.7	444.3	249.2	393.5	330	108.4	953.5	5 644.8
1996–97	2 692.2	761	348.2	343.8	508.5	410.3	303.6	1 003.3	6 371.1
1996									
September qtr	648.1	152.8	90.4	95.9	179.1	70.7	101.9	129.9	1 468.8
December qtr	587.6	184.3	72.3	80.4	111.1	66.2	49.8	275.6	1 427.3
1997									
March qtr	666.8	188.9	88.3	93.2	114	59.4	48.5	228.4	1 487.5
June qtr	789.7	235	97.2	74.4	104.3	214.1	103.4	369.6	1 987.6
September qtr r	845.8	228.4	80.4	58.3	123.8	55.2	46.1	245.8	1 683.7
December qtr	1 014.3	212.2	123.4	80.8	91.7	69.2	90.7	570.2	2 252.4
UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD									
1994–95	1 450.8	354.3	480.6	142.9	241.9	217.3	251.0	1 092.6	4 231.4
1995–96	1 472.5	339.4	235.5	141.4	139.2	248.1	123.9	1 390.9	4 091.0
1996–97	1 582.3	358.5	284.6	214.9	233.4	310.0	236.2	1 741.7	4 961.6
1996									
September qtr	1 513.8	297.3	275.5	199.4	199.4	262.2	146.2	1 426.4	4 320.3
December qtr	1 402.4	284.5	249.8	183.6	201.8	224.3	157.9	1 594.5	4 298.8
1997									
March qtr	1 456.0	309.3	237.7	227.1	228.6	188.1	172.5	1 801.3	4 620.4
June qtr	1 582.3	358.5	284.6	214.9	233.4	310.0	236.2	1 741.7	4 961.6
September qtr r	1 669.2	388.8	175.4	167.4	193.9	343.2	245.6	920.7	4 104.1
December qtr	1 820.3	398.1	187.5	158.1	195.1	364.9	303.5	1 278.0	4 705.7
COMPLETED									
1994–95	2 882.5	709.8	313.6	253.1	290.7	228.8	387.3	521.5	5 587.3
1995–96	2 489.6	689.0	715.1	249.9	514.1	302.2	234.7	844.4	6 038.9
1996–97	2 617.6	768.5	364.8	295.6	404.0	342.0	194.6	1 106.7	6 093.8
1996									
September qtr	606.0	204.1	85.6	41.5	119.6	55.7	79.2	175.6	1 367.4
December qtr	710.6	200.5	106.0	110.8	79.2	103.1	39.0	220.4	1 569.5
1997									
March qtr	616.3	168.6	121.2	56.9	100.5	88.1	34.8	271.0	1 457.4
June qtr	684.7	195.3	52.0	86.5	104.6	95.0	41.5	439.9	1 699.5
September qtr r	775.5	202.9	193.1	114.5	169.9	30.8	39.6	1 101.1	2 627.5
December qtr	870.6	210.0	111.8	93.3	100.4	49.9	36.1	230.7	1 702.9

Source: Building Activity, Victoria (Cat. no. 8752.2) (quarterly).

15

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, BY SELECTED INDUSTRIES AND TYPE OF ASSET

Period	Selected industries				Type of asset	
	Mining	Manufacturing	Other selected industries	Total	New buildings and structures	Equipment, plant and machinery
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
ACTUAL						
1995–96	590	3 544	6 160	10 294	3 126	7 168
1996–97	758	3 447	7 290	11 496	3 379	8 117
1996						
September qtr	125	808	1 639	2 573	789	1 784
December qtr	301	987	1 862	3 150	1 039	2 110
1997						
March qtr	162	772	1 613	2 547	789	1 758
June qtr	170	880	2 176	3 226	761	2 465
September qtr	164	775	1 563	2 502	694	1 807
December qtr	378	903	1 794	3 075	831	2 244
EXPECTED						
1997–98	1 265	3 244	6 263	10 772	2 997	7 775
1998–99	872	2 400	5 644	8 915	3 038	5 877

Source: State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure (Cat. no. 5646.0) (quarterly).

16

COMMERCIAL FINANCE COMMITMENTS

Month	Fixed loan facilities						Type of lender		
	Construction	Purchase of real property	Purchase of plant and equipment	Wholesale	Other	Total	Revolving credit facilities	Total commitments	Type of lender
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1996									
December	82.8	293.8	172.5	69.1	705.7	1 324.0	1 546.0	2 870.0	2 078.9
1997									
January	54.7	284.2	131.8	69.3	450.7	990.7	2 538.2	3 528.9	1 688.3
February	77.4	310.8	140.1	74.6	316.8	919.6	1 711.3	2 630.9	2 159.6
March	92.8	369.0	183.2	84.8	707.3	1 437.2	1 113.6	2 550.8	2 203.7
April	76.8	355.2	166.4	79.3	443.5	1 121.3	2 092.8	3 214.1	2 862.2
May	78.7	738.2	154.5	90.2	863.5	1 925.1	2 425.8	4 350.9	3 738.8
June	75.4	408.9	172.8	120.2	824.8	1 602.2	2 232.2	3 834.4	2 929.6
July	134.1	439.1	178.7	148.9	1 162.2	2 063.0	2 470.0	4 533.0	3 757.0
August	98.8	411.9	168.5	93.7	692.8	1 465.7	2 193.6	3 659.3	2 827.0
September	153.7	500.3	179.2	124.4	583.9	1 541.6	2 560.3	4 101.9	3 545.9
October	93.0	549.4	279.7	222.0	471.8	1 615.9	2 512.8	4 128.7	3 180.7
November	77.4	463.8	138.3	81.2	525.1	1 285.9	1 475.9	2 761.9	2 279.0
December	167.1	539.6	164.7	123.8	1 729.9	2 725.0	1 862.3	4 587.3	3 996.0
1998									
January	76.8	487.7	121.9	83.1	372.6	1 142.1	r 1 359.6	r 2 501.7	2 154.8
February	116.4	425.2	119.7	118.4	722.3	1 502.1	2 150.7	3 652.8	2 757.5

Source: Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0) (monthly).

17

SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, DWELLING UNITS

Month	Original series		Seasonally adjusted		Trend estimates	
	no.	\$m	no.	\$m	no.	\$m
1996						
December	8 557	810	9 140	837	9 233	852
1997						
January	7 816	741	9 284	865	9 157	861
February	8 759	818	9 021	857	9 214	881
March	8 634	839	9 172	914	9 352	907
April	10 637	1 031	9 778	954	9 510	936
May	10 302	1 018	9 796	972	9 635	960
June	10 081	1 022	9 784	992	9 733	982
July	10 199	1 039	9 564	955	r 9 801	1 002
August	9 890	1 031	9 777	1 040	r 9 855	1 021
September	10 063	1 060	10 138	1 047	r 9 918	r 1 039
October	10 529	1 109	9 927	1 051	r 10 008	r 1 056
November	9 583	1 019	10 074	1 091	r 10 105	1 069
December	10 192	1 090	10 086	1 054	r 10 189	r 1 077
1998						
January r	8 294	889	10 529	1 103	10 260	1 083
February	9 898	1 020	10 177	1 068	10 303	1 083

Source: Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0) (monthly).

18

RETAIL TURNOVER, BY INDUSTRY (EXCLUDING MOTOR VEHICLES, PARTS, PETROL, ETC.)

Month	Food retailing	Department stores	Clothing and soft good retailing	Household good retailing	Recreational good retailing	Other retailing	Hospitality and services	Total
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
1997								
January	1 108.7	197.4	153.2	347.3	144.8	220.6	321.1	2 493.1
February	1 009.1	171.9	118.2	320.1	132.2	220.5	284.9	2 256.9
March	1 084.0	214.3	143.1	319.9	142.2	229.8	326.0	2 459.1
April	1 053.7	212.6	173.4	325.2	147.0	242.5	310.7	2 465.2
May	1 104.6	241.0	169.8	327.6	141.1	254.6	304.8	2 543.5
June	1 028.5	200.4	147.1	333.1	134.8	235.7	288.4	2 367.9
July	1 069.4	226.3	164.2	331.4	139.6	254.6	305.0	2 490.5
August	1 069.6	198.2	148.1	336.7	144.1	268.8	307.6	2 473.0
September	1 047.4	226.6	154.5	325.1	151.6	272.7	304.8	2 482.6
October	1 124.7	232.6	168.7	372.2	162.6	271.5	328.4	2 660.7
November	1 101.1	272.3	178.6	373.3	169.4	264.6	320.6	2 679.9
December	1 256.5	465.3	245.5	482.2	250.5	383.6	371.9	3 455.3
1998								
January	1 128.9	214.2	155.6	320.1	158.6	254.7	339.4	2 571.5
February	1 022.6	174.2	134.6	280.6	142.7	236.5	297.0	2 288.3
March	1 085.9	208.9	163.8	300.6	150.8	272.9	339.1	2 522.0

Source: Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0) (monthly).

19

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, BY SECTIONS OF THE AUSTRALIAN EXPORT AND IMPORT CLASSIFICATIONS

Section	1996-97		9 months ending March 1998	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
0 Food and live animals chiefly for food	1 002	3 674	868	2 714
1 Beverages and tobacco	103	124	102	118
2 Crude materials, inedible (except fuels)	536	r 1739	423	1 464
3 Mineral fuels, lubricants, and related materials	934	887	603	709
4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	95	83	72	90
5 Chemicals and related products, n.e.c.	2 478	877	2 163	673
6 Manufacturing goods classified chiefly by material	3 706	2 323	3 239	1 770
7 Machinery and transport equipment	10 956	3 392	9 251	2 260
8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles	4 351	r 992	3 856	765
9 Commodities and transactions of merchandise trade, n.e.c	932	2 218	869	1 540
Total	25 093	r 16 308	21 446	12 103

Source: Foreign Trade Australia: Fasttracs Database.

20

OVERSEAS TRADE, MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS(a)

Country	1995-96		1996-97		9 months ending March 1998	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
Belgium-Luxembourg	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Brazil	253	74	242	66	185	55
Canada	174	77	125	81	107	56
China	453	101	394	123	293	84
Fiji	1 675	641	1 755	658	1 701	487
Finland	60	215	119	236	96	184
France	239	9	169	8	149	7
Germany	536	143	711	162	477	135
Hong Kong	1 994	264	1 923	280	1 575	181
India	241	821	267	812	261	822
Indonesia	234	139	231	239	200	146
Italy	378	367	507	428	454	268
Japan	807	249	832	320	690	322
Korea, Republic of	3 429	1 952	3 097	1 525	2 892	1 244
Malaysia	634	1 921	671	2 098	583	888
Mexico	458	737	508	669	491	424
Netherlands	55	43	64	52	52	61
New Zealand	233	60	237	39	190	58
Pakistan	1 207	1 598	1 247	r 2 140	988	1 161
Papua New Guinea	72	77	75	55	76	72
Philippines	128	237	232	269	135	184
Saudi Arabia	117	339	108	372	91	309
Singapore	225	194	203	168	75	161
South Africa	571	1 162	468	893	372	776
Sweden	83	207	100	292	113	206
Switzerland	591	69	502	65	456	32
Taiwan	288	45	241	66	200	17
Thailand	773	663	792	696	662	501
United Kingdom	322	513	335	412	298	269
United States of America	1 502	373	1 635	416	1 237	327
Other and unknown	5 839	788	5 944	958	5 103	1 079
Total	24 663	15 410	25 093	r 16 308	21 446	12 103

(a) The list of countries in this table reflects the volume of trade with Victoria. Information about Victoria's trade with other countries is available on request.

Source: Overseas Trade: Fasttracs Database.

21

VALUE OF OVERSEAS TRADE — VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA

Period	Victoria			Australia		
	Imports	Exports	Excess of exports	Imports	Exports (including re-exports)	Excess of exports
1994-95	23 967	13 008	-10 959	74 619	67 052	-7 567
1995-96	24 663	15 410	-9 253	77 792	76 005	-1 787
1996-97	25 093	16 308	-8 785	78 998	r 78 938	r -60
1997						
January	1 977	1 146	-831	6 425	6 019	-406
February	1 935	1 350	-585	6 072	r 6 425	r 353
March	1 865	1 397	-468	5 985	6 634	649
April	2 165	r 1 346	r -819	6 749	6 638	-111
May	2 025	1 992	-33	6 448	7 630	1 182
June	2 064	r 1 324	r -740	6 876	r 6 838	r -38
July	2 361	1 289	-1 072	7 419	r 7 131	r -288
August	2 264	1 185	-1 079	7 048	7 186	138
September	2 338	1 346	-992	7 355	7 204	-151
October	2 604	1 421	-1 183	r 7 944	r 7 626	r -318
November	2 264	1 540	-724	r 7 185	r 7 631	r 446
December	2 426	1 508	-918	r 7 920	r 7 815	r -105
1998						
January	2 269	r 1 095	r -1 174	r 7 112	r 6 296	r -815
February	r 2 295	r 1 379	r -916	r 6 949	r 6 682	r -267
March	2 625	1 339	-1 286	8 201	7 313	-888

Source: Overseas Trade: Fasttracs Database.

22

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION — MELBOURNE AND VICTORIA

Period	Hotels, motels, etc. with facilities				Short-term caravan parks			
	Establishments	Capacity, guest rooms	Room occupancy rates	Takings from accommodation	Establishments	Capacity, sites and cabins	Site occupancy rates	Takings from accommodation
MELBOURNE STATISTICAL DIVISION								
1996								
September qtr	239	14 440	66	100 835	53	5 728	44	1 771
December qtr	241	14 509	71	114 046	52	5 877	51	2 262
1997								
March qtr	240	14 456	74	125 553	52	5 899	59	2 368
June qtr	240	14 953	67	111 910	52	5 878	46	1 618
September qtr	249	15 142	67	119 066	51	5 689	46	1 785
December qtr	247	15 253	70	127 777	51	5 700	53	2 297
TOTAL VICTORIA								
1996								
September qtr	1 013	29 877	52	141 778	441	54 226	36	12 239
December qtr	1 013	29 918	56	152 611	441	54 390	41	17 402
1997								
March qtr	1 012	29 869	60	169 396	442	54 394	49	21 407
June qtr	1 012	30 325	53	148 700	440	54 056	39	12 340
September qtr	1 046	30 799	53	163 681	442	53 873	37	13 513
December qtr	1 040	30 904	56	168 260	441	54 226	36	12 239

Source: Tourist Accommodation, Victoria (Cat. no. 8635.2) (quarterly).

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